

DETAILED ACTION

The following action is in response to application 10/586,225 filed on June 8, 2007.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Charles Ruggiero on August 27, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

on page 1, lines 7-8, "summarized in the preamble of claim 1 is" has been deleted.

on page 8, line 23, after "first primary wheel," "3.1" has been replaced with --3.3--.

on page 9, line 27, after "first primary wheel," "3.1" has been replaced with --3.3--.

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: In Figs. 1-2, parts 11 and 14 on the right side of the figures need to be relabeled parts --11*-- and --14*--, respectively. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9-16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious the transmission as claimed, and particularly including said first and second interfaces being connected so that the first interface transmits the driving power to said second interface in a first operating mode, and said second interface transmits the driving power to said first interface in a second operating mode, said first and second gear trains being respectively continuously connected to said first one of a plurality of primary wheels and said at least one secondary wheel, and including the remaining structure of claims 9 and 16, respectively.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sinclair, Jahnel, Okada, Sekiyama, and Kley have been cited to show similar transmissions.

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Submission of your response by facsimile transmission is encouraged. The central facsimile number is (571) 273-8300. Recognizing the fact that reducing cycle time in the processing and examination of patent applications will effectively increase a patent's term, it is to your benefit to submit responses by facsimile transmission whenever permissible. Such submission will place the response directly in our examining group's hands and will eliminate Post Office processing and delivery time as well as the PTO's mail room processing and delivery time. For a complete list of correspondence not permitted by facsimile transmission, see MPEP 502.01. In general, most responses and/or amendments not requiring a fee, as well as those requiring a fee but charging such fee to a deposit account, can be submitted by facsimile transmission. Responses requiring a fee which applicant is paying by check should not be submitting by facsimile transmission separately from the check.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roger L. Pang whose telephone number is 571-272-7096. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30am to 4:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor can be reached on 571-272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Roger L Pang/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3655

Roger L Pang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3655

August 28, 2009